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Title: Observation regarding business transacted by the House during the week ending on 23rd November, 2007.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, for your information, I want to briefly recapitulate the main items of business transacted by the House during last week.

During this period the Question Hour could not be taken up on the first two days due to interruptions. On the remaining three days, out of 60 Starred Questions, only 17 could be answered orally. Replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with the replies to 955 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table.

One Short Duration Discussion under Rule 193 regarding the "proposal to set up Special Economic Zone in Nandigram, West Bengal and consequent large scale violence" raised by Shri L.K. Advani was taken up and discussed for over five hours before it was replied by the Minister of Home Affairs.

As regards the Legislative Business, the House discussed for about three hours and 48 minutes the All India Institute of Medical Sciences and the Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2007 before the Bill was passed. Another Bill, "The Tyre Corporation of India Limited (Disinvestment of Ownership) Bill, 2007" was discussed for about 54 minutes before it was passed. The Payment and Settlement Systems Bill, 2006 was taken up for discussion and remained part discussed.

As regards Private Members' Business, the House resumed discussion on a Private Member's Resolution regarding "free and compulsory education up to higher secondary level", moved by Shri Ram Kripal Yadav on 31st August, 2007. The Resolution was further discussed for over two hours and 17 minutes. However, the discussion was not concluded.

During the week, Members raised as many as 40 matters of urgent public importance. Also, 40 matters were raised under Rule 377.

During this period two Calling Attention matters relating to (i) situation arising out of high cost of health services and need to evolve laws to regulate the private nursing homes, by Shri Gurudas Dasgupta, and (ii) situation arising due to supply of inferior quality of wheat to BPL families under the Public Distribution System by Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, were taken up. In response the concerned Ministers made the statements and replied to the clarifications.

Ten Statements were also made by the Ministers on important subjects in the House.

The Departmentally Related Standing Committees presented 19 Reports, during the last week.[m15]

We lost 11 hours and 38 minutes due to interruptions and adjournments last week. However, the House sat late for two hours and five minutes.

I wish to appeal to the hon. Members again for their cooperation in the conduct of the proceedings. I wish to convey my thanks for the help rendered to the Chair.

12.06 hrs.